



Legislative  
Service  
Bureau

# MINUTES

## Capital Projects Work Group

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November 18, 1998

Fourth Meeting of the 1997-1998 Biennium

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### MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator John Jensen,  
Chairperson

Senator Patty Judge

Also present were:

Senator Mike Gronstal

Senator Stewart Iverson, Jr.

Representative Chuck Gipp,  
Vice Chairperson

Representative Pat Murphy

Also present were:

Representative David Schrader

Representative Brent Siegrist

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## MEETING IN BRIEF

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1. **Procedural Business.**
  2. **State Capitol Restoration Update.**
  3. **Legislative Space Discussion.**
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### COMMITTEE BUSINESS

#### 1. **Procedural Business.**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Capital Projects Work Group was called to order by Chairperson Senator John Jensen at 2:50 p.m., Wednesday, November 18, 1998, in the Speaker's Committee Room, State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa.

**Adjournment.** Chairperson Jensen adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

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## **Capital Projects Work Group**

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### **2. State Capitol Restoration Update.**

Chairperson Jensen recognized Mr. Mark Willemssen, Facilities Engineer, Department of General Services, for an update on the restoration of the State Capitol. Mr. Willemssen discussed the progress on the exterior and interior restoration. He stated that the rotunda area required much more extensive restoration than originally expected and, as a result, the completion date and removal of the scaffolding on the interior of the building is delayed until the middle or latter part of December. He added that the Senate and House rooms and offices adjacent to the respective chambers should be completed by the end of the first week in December.

### **3. Legislative Space Discussion.**

Chairperson Jensen asked Work Group members to discuss options for proceeding with results of the legislative space utilization study and proposal for additional building space near the State Capitol to accommodate the space needs of the General Assembly and its staff. He added that the legislative space utilization study completed by Herbert Lewis Kruse Blunck Architecture (HLKB) estimated that the General Assembly and its staff would need approximately 40,000 square feet more than will be available in the State Capitol building in order to have adequate committee rooms and staff office space comparable to the facilities of other state agencies.

The Work Group discussed the space problems that will exist if the mezzanine areas in the Capitol currently available for legislative use are removed. It was noted that the removal of the mezzanines has been decreed by the State Fire Marshal.

Senate Majority Leader Stewart Iverson commented that the HLKB space proposal uses Senate Committee Rooms 22 and 24 as office areas. He asked that the space proposal be altered to retain Senate Rooms 22 and 24 as Senate committee rooms. During the discussion, the Work Group and legislative leaders discussed the next phase for the General Assembly and suggested that HLKB be asked to develop a proposed design that contemplates a below grade structure adjacent to the State Capitol of 40,000 or more square feet with tunnel or belowground access to the State Capitol. The legislative leaders authorized the Work Group to work with HLKB on an agreement for HLKB to provide design plans and a cost estimate to the legislative leadership for such a structure.

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